



*Health Care Quality and Cost Council
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
One Ashburton Place, Room 1109
Boston, MA 02108*

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Health Care Quality and Cost Council

Minutes

April 25, 2007

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Plaza Room 11, One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Attendees: Judy Bigby (chair), Robert Seifert, Elizabeth Capstick, Jack McCarthy (designee for Gregory Sullivan), Dolores Mitchell, James Conway, David Friedman, Chris DeLorey, Kevin Beagan, Charlie Baker

I. Judy Bigby called the meeting to order at 1:07pm

II. Approval of minutes from 3.21.07

(Jack McCarthy abstaining, all others voted in favor)

III. Approval of Executive Director Offer Letter

Sec. Bigby presented the offer letter for the approval of the Council. A unanimous vote was taken in favor of approving the letter and extending the offer.

IV. Review of By-laws

Sec. Bigby led a discussion of amending the By-laws for the purposes of identifying the role and authorities of Executive Director, the ability of the Council to call an Executive Session, and a review of who can approve contracts.

Specific discussions centered on what kind of oversight and guidance to extend to the Executive Director through the By-laws and her integration into existing governmental structures.

A unanimous vote was made to amend the bylaws as edited

V. Principles and goals from last meeting

Secretary Bigby presented a table which identified various initiatives and the levers influencing health care quality and cost as well as impact on racial and ethnic disparities.

The chart included initiatives which were presented separately by the Cost and Quality Subcommittees. The purpose of the chart is to give a big picture perspective and present a method for comparing and integrating both sets of goals as well as methods for implementing change.

It was decided that the table would be reviewed and initiatives fleshed out more during a joint Cost and Quality Subcommittees meeting.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

Cost Subcommittee David Friedman reported on a phone conference with New Hampshire and reviewed the information available on the New Hampshire website as well as the regulations promulgated to have access to that information. An initial draft of the New Hampshire regulations adapted for MA consideration was presented and it was decided that the draft regulations should be circulated for comment among the Council, Advisory Committee, and industry groups. It was also decided that it would be helpful to have a meeting with the team which assembled the regulations and website in New Hampshire.

This initial discussion on the draft regulations included the need to include quality data which is not included in the NH regulations, utilizing a standardized format, collecting information from plans and payers, and consideration of how the information would be presented.

Quality Subcommittee reported on a review of the quality goals presented at the previous meeting and agreed to work on a comparison document with the Cost Subcommittee for the next meeting of the Council.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
JudyAnn Bigby